

determining the time of original capture of each of the images; and evaluating the similarity metric for each block and the time of original capture to determine whether the images are duplicate images.

26. The method as claimed in claim 25 wherein the time of original capture is determined by extracting encoded time information from a film strip used to capture images of the original scene.

27. The method as claimed in claim 25 wherein the time of original capture is determined by extracting encoded time information from images provided by a digital camera.

28. The method as claimed in claim 25 further comprising the step of generating an average of the similarity metrics for the blocks and the step of evaluating the similarity metric comprises evaluating the average of the similarity metrics and the time of capture to determine whether the images are duplicate images.

29. The method as claimed in claim 25 wherein the step of evaluating the similarity metric for each block and the time of capture comprises comparing one or more blocks of one image, using a histogram intersection metric, to corresponding blocks of another image and using the time difference between capture of the two images to determine whether the images are duplicate images.

30. The method as claimed in claim 25 wherein the step of computing an indication of image content further comprises assigning one or more blocks to represent a foreground area of the images, and computing an indication of image content in each block and in the foreground areas of each image.

#### REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,644,765 to Shimura et al. Claims 3-7 and 20-24 are